



NEWS RELEASE  
*Office of the  
United States Attorney  
for the  
District of Nebraska*  
**Joe W. Stecher**

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May 6, 2009

United States Attorney Joe Stecher and the Lincoln Police Department, Lancaster County Sheriff's Department, Lancaster County Attorney's Office, the Nebraska State Patrol, and the Drug Enforcement Administration announce the following information for the attention of the media:

**Event Triggering this Release:**

On May 6, 2009, Brandon Crago was sentenced to 30 years, (360 months), in prison for conspiracy to sell methamphetamine in the Lincoln area between February of 2007 and January of 2008. Crago was held responsible for the distribution of between 5 kilograms (11 pounds) and 15 kilograms (33 pounds) of the drug. Crago's sentence will run concurrently with two consecutive terms of life imprisonment for First Degree Murder imposed by the Lancaster County District Court in February of 2009 resulting from the deaths of Steven and Carolyn Bailey of rural Lancaster County in August of 2008. Upon completion of his federal prison sentence, Crago will serve five years on supervised release. He was also ordered to pay a \$100 special assessment.

**Name of Defendant:** Brandon Christopher Crago

**AKA:**

**Age:** 34

**City of residence:** Lincoln

**Crime(s) Charged and Potential Penalty** (A CHARGE is merely an accusation and every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty): Conspiracy to distribute and possess with the intent to distribute 500 grams or more of a mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine, a Schedule II controlled substance, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846. The possible penalty is not less than 10 years nor more than life imprisonment and a fine of up to \$4,000,000. Following any prison term, there would be a term of

supervised release of not less than five years. There is also a \$100 special assessment.

**Specific Location of Alleged Crime:** Lincoln

**Location of Arrest:** Lincoln

**Alleged Dollar Loss/Type and Quantity of Drug:** Crago was held responsible for at least 5 kilograms (11 pounds) but less than 15 kilograms (33 pounds) of a mixture or substance containing methamphetamine.

**Others Charged in Same Scheme:** none

**Relevant Dates:**

**Date of Alleged Crime:** Between on or about February 1, 2007, and on or about January 31, 2008

**Federal Arrest Date:** June 21, 2008

**Date Complaint Issued:**

**Indictment Returned Date:** June 18, 2008

**Initial Appearance Date:** June 23, 2008

**Plea or Trial and Date(s):** Crago pled guilty on February 17, 2009

**Sentencing Date:** May 6, 2009

**Next Court Hearing Type and Date:** none

**Assigned Magistrate Judge:** The Honorable David L. Piester

**Held without Bond, or Released from Custody:** Crago was released on conditions on August 4, 2008; a warrant was issued for him for violation of the terms of his release on August 8, 2008; and he was arrested on state charges on August 11, 2008.

**In Continuous Custody Since:** August 11, 2008

**Assigned District Court Judge:** The Honorable Richard G. Kopf

**Initials of Assigned AUSA/Preparer of THIS Release:** SEF